

From: john anderson
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 3:41pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

January 23, 2002
Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The three-year-long process of filing suit against Microsoft is about to come to a close. I am concerned about the impact on the USA economy and the industry in particular considering the time and money wasted in litigation. In my opinion, any further litigation is sponsored by competition of Microsoft. The holdouts clearly hope to prolong settlement as a weapon against innovation and of little cost to them. Microsoft has agreed to a long list of terms, some of which were not even issues in the original lawsuit. Microsoft agreed to computer-making flexibility, meaning that Microsoft agreed to grant computer makers new rights to configure Windows as they see most fit for their customers, even if they end up including non-Microsoft software. Computer makers will also be free to remove the pathways by which consumers get to various features of Windows (like Explorer), and replace them with different paths for different programs. Having used Microsoft products at home and at work some of the products being demanded by competition through litigation are totally stupid wasted efforts as the market is nil. Obviously, Microsoft was and is willing to do what was necessary to bring this matter to a close, and the Department of Justice should follow suit, so to speak. The settlement should stand as it is and there should be no more litigation.

Sincerely,
John Anderson
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